

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0316

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, CZ

SUBJECT: CZECHOSLOVAK DELEGATION TO PCF CONGRESS

1. KSC DELEGATES TO FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY (OCF) 22ND CONGRESS ARE OLDRICH SVESTKA, MEMBER OF SECRETARIAT AND CHIEF EDITOR OF RUDE PRAVO, AND ANTONIN VAVRUS, CHIEF OF INTERNATIONAL POLICY DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE.

2. OUR FILES DO NOT READILY SHOW WHO DELEGATES WERE TO PREVIOUS PCF CONGRESSES. TOPIC IS OF INTEREST NOW AS POSSIBLE INDICATOR OF KSC-PCF RELATIONS. THIS IS TIED IN NOT ONLY WITH CPSU-PCF RELATIONS, BUT ALSO IN PARTICULAR WITH ECPC AND POSSIBLE AIRING THERE OF "THE CZECHOSLOVAK QUESTION" (I.E. 1968 INVASION).

3. AT NATO AMBS' LUNCH FEB 4 FRENCH AMB SAID SENDING SVESTKA (COMPARED WITH SAY KIRILENKO FROM USSR) SEEMED RATHER LOW-LEVEL, AND HE WONDERED WHY BILAK HAD NOT GONE. (AMBS WERE INTRIGUED ALSO THAT HAVLIN RATHER THAN BILAK WENT TO RECENT PARTY SECRETARY MEETING IN WARSAW.) GERMAN AMBASSADOR SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS CUSTOMARY FOR KSC TO SEND REPRESENTATION AT ABOUT THIS LEVEL, AND HE THOUGHT IT WAS NOTEWORTHY THAT NEW RUDE PRAVO EDITOR (WHO ALSO WAS MEMBER OF SECRE-

TARIAT, ALTHOUGH NOT A SECRETARY) WAS PICKED.

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4. SINCE THERE IS RELEVANCE TO PRESENT STATE PCF-KSC RELATIONS, EMBASSY WOULD BE INDEBTED IF INR COULD CHECK WHAT PREVIOUS KSC DELEGATIONS WERE LIKE AND TELL US WHAT SIGNIFICANCE IS SEEN IN CHOICE OF SVESTKA-VAVRUS.
PERRY

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NNN

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